

URBAN DISTRICT  
OF BOLSOVER

DERBYSHIRE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

**1970**



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**1970**

# **BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

(As at 31st December, 1970)

Chairman	-	Councillor A. R. Drury
Vice-Chairman	-	Councillor S. T. Fisher
Councillor J. W. Bluff		Councillor Mrs D. M. B. Kennington
Councillor S. J. Clarke, J.P.		Councillor R. Raben,
Councillor F. Cross		Councillor W. B. Revill
Councillor Mrs V. Dowd		Councillor J. Spray
Councillor T. Fulleylove (deceased)		Councillor W. A. Taylor.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF :**

### **Medical Officer of Health :**

Dr. M. JOAN CASH, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
'Dale Close', 100 Chesterfield Road South, Mansfield  
(Telephone : Mansfield 27561).

### **Deputy Medical Officer (Part time)**

Dr J. W. DENT, M.B., Ch.B.,  
'Brown Dyke', Welbeck Road, Bolsover.

### **Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :**

JOHN F. H. WALTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
Council Offices, Sherwood Lodge, Bolsover  
(Tel.: Bolsover 3255/6)

Tehnical Assistant : T. A. BORE.

Clerk to Medical Officer of Health : Mrs C. L. Todd.

## PREFACE

To the Chairman and Members of the  
District Council

Mr Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my report on the health of the district for the year 1970. This includes an account of the work carried out under various Acts of Parliament by the Health Department and conforms to the requirements of Annual Reports laid down by the Department of Health. I hope you will find it to be of interest.

This year has produced considerable strides in the slum clearance programme and in this respect the most important event was the declaration of Bentinck Road as a General Improvement Area, the first one to be declared under the new Housing Act in Derbyshire.

The Bentinck Road houses are basically sound and are of reasonable size and with such a strong community spirit, I feel sure we have done the right thing in deciding to improve these. There is relatively little slum clearance property left in Bolsover now and the majority of the inhabitants are well housed.

There is a good provision of warden assisted accommodation for the elderly, but I do feel there is a need for a few purpose built bungalows for the disabled, who are not always elderly. Any family who has a disabled member is liable to be in difficulties with housing especially with stairs.

Regarding infectious disease, the incidence was low in 1970 with the exception of measles and we had no outbreaks of food poisoning, tuberculosis, poliomyelitis or diphtheria.

The death rate is a little higher than the national figure, but a very large majority of deaths are over the age of 65. Bolsover has a fairly high incidence of elderly people but I think it can be considered a healthy town in which to live.

I must thank all the officers for their help and co-operation throughout the year and especially Mr Walton, the Public Health Inspector, for the excellent way he runs the department.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

M. JOAN CASH,

Medical Officer of Health.

'Dale Close',  
100 Chesterfield Road South,  
Mansfield.

## STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (Acres	...	...	...	...	...	4,526
Population (Census 1961)	...	...	...	...	...	11,770
Population mid-year (Registrar General) 1970	...	...	...	...	...	11,690
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1970)	...	...	...	...	...	3,793
Rateable value (end of 1970)	...	...	...	...	...	£444,521
Sum represented by a Penny Rate 1970	...	...	...	...	...	£1,763

## VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS	Total	Male	Female
Live Births	153	83	70
Rate per 1,000 population corrected—	12.4		
Illegitimate Live Births	4	3	1
Per cent of total live births—	3		
Stillbirths	3	-	3
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths—	19		
Total live and stillbirths	156	86	70
Infant Deaths			
(deaths under one year)	4	3	1
Infant Mortality Rates :—			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births			26
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births			—
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live brths)			26
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)			26
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)			45
Maternal mortality (including abortion)			Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths			Nil



The birth rate remains steady and I am glad to say there is a slight reduction in illegitimate births. There were no deaths of illegitimate babies. I am sorry to report the infant mortality rate is again higher this year and at 26 is considerably above the national figure. There was a total of four infant deaths under the age of one; three of which were due to difficult conditions at birth. The fourth was due to a congenital defect. It is true that with small numbers one extra death can make a big difference, but unfortunately the infant mortality rate has been higher than the national figure for several years now. I feel it is important to stress that mothers expecting their first baby should be confined in hospital. Also, the importance of ante-natal care cannot be over-emphasised. I am glad to report that there were no maternal deaths.

Below is a table comparing the vital statistics for the past four years:—

	1967	1968	1969	1970
Births	166	173	154	153
Deaths	112	122	148	142
Stillbirths	4	3	1	3
Infant Deaths	7	3	3	4
Infant Mortality Rate	42	17	19	26
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	24.1	11.5	13	26
Maternal Mortality Rate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Our figures for 1970 and the National ones are as follows

	Bolsover	England and Wales
Infant Mortality Rate	26	18
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	26	12
Peri-natal Mortality Rate	45	23
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	26	11
Live Births	12.4	16
Stillbirths	19	13
Deaths	15.1	11.7



## DEATHS

Total	Male	Female
142	74	68

The crude (uncorrected) death rate was 12.1 as compared with a National figure of 11.7. The area comparability factor being 1.25, the corrected death rate was 15.1.

This year there was a fall in the number of male deaths and a slight increase in the number of female deaths. The total number of deaths is down on 1969.

35 people died from **coronary heart disease**; 19 of these being male. All except 8 were over the age of 65. This is exactly the same total as last year.

There were 25 deaths from all forms of **cancer** during the year; 12 of these being males. 3 people died from lung cancer which is a big reduction on last year.

There were 24 deaths from **cardio vascular conditions**, all except 3 being over the age of 65.

There were 11 deaths from **bronchitis and emphysema** and 12 deaths from **pneumonia**. Nearly all of these were in elderly people.

4 deaths occurred due to accidents; one of these being a car accident. 3 of these deaths were in people over the age of 75. There were no accidental deaths in children.

### SUMMARY OF THE MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female	Total
Coronary Disease	19	16	35
Cancer (all forms)	12	13	25
Circulatory Disease	8	16	24
Respiratory conditions	18	11	29
Heart disease	3	5	8
All accidents	1	3	4
Abdominal conditions	2	1	3
Endocrine diseases	1	1	2
Diseases of the nervous system	1	1	2
Miscellaneous	9	1	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>142</b>

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were no serious epidemics during the year. There was, however, a considerable epidemic of measles. In the autumn we were able to recommence the campaign of measles immunisation and it is to be hoped this will make a big difference to the number of cases occurring in the future. There were no notified cases of food poisoning and I am very glad to note that there were no cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year. There were no deaths from any of these diseases.

During the year a total of 202 children received a primary course of injections against diphtheria and 154 booster injections were given.

# Cases of infectious disease notified during the year 1970

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified.								
	At Ages - years								
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25 upwards
Total	97	6	13	11	12	9	41	1	3
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Acute Encephalitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Infective Jaundice	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	86	6	13	11	10	9	36	1	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Para-Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
do. (Non-Paralytic)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Smallpox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tetanus	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Typhoid Fever	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Yellow Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE IN THE AREA**

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and School Clinics are provided by the Derbyshire County Council at the County Clinic, Welbeck Road, Bolsover. The following services are provided at this clinic under the auspices of the County Council.

1. Ante-natal
2. Cervical cytology (smear tests)
3. Infant Welfare
4. Sale of Welfare Foods
5. Family Planning
6. Dental Treatment (or expectant and nursing and school children)
7. Vaccination and Immunisation
8. Chiropody
9. School and handicapped children's clinics by appointment.

### **Ambulance Service**

This is provided by the County Council.

### **Laboratory Facilities**

Analytical are provided by the County Council.

Bacteriological are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at both Sheffield and Derby.

### **Chest Clinics**

There is a Chest Clinic provided by the Regional Hospital Board in Chesterfield. This is the most accessible to Bolsover Urban District residents. There are also similar clinics in Worksop and Mansfield. Mass Miniature Radiography is available in Sheffield.

## **Venereal Diseases**

Treatment and advice in strict confidence can be obtained at Derby Royal Infirmary, Chesterfield Royal Hospital, Victoria Hospital, Worksop and Mansfield General Hospital.

It is most important for anyone who may have contracted one or more of these diseases, which are becoming all too common, to seek advice.

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT**

I am glad to say that once again no action was necessary during the year under Section 47 of this Act.

## **COMMON LODGING HOUSES**

There are no common lodging houses in Bolsover Urban District.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER

The water supply to the Urban District of Bolsover is provided by the North Derbyshire Water Board. The Engineer and Manager to the Board has very kindly sent me the following report. I would like to thank him for this and also for his co-operation throughout the year.

The area is supplied predominantly from the Board's Works at Bolsover Moor and Hillstown where the treatment comprises base exchange softening and chlorination. This is also supplemented by a bulk supply from the Central Nottinghamshire Water Board. The resultant quality of supplied waters is bacteriologically satisfactory. Chemical and Bacteriological analyses are carried out in the Board's laboratories. All raw, treated and distributed waters are examined at least monthly. The number of examinations involved in 1970 being :—

Bacteriological	192
Chemical	191

The quantity proved adequate for normal household purposes.

Before being brought into service all new mains were washed out and disinfected and samples taken to confirm the efficiency of the operation. No other action was necessary in respect of post-treatment contamination.

Chemical results vary with location due to the fact that two supply systems are involved and approximate ranges of characteristics are as follows :—



pH		7.4 - 8.2	
Alkalinity	(CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	90 - 260	mg/l
Total Hardness	(CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	150 - 180	mg/l
Chloride	(Cl)	40 - 130	mg/l
Fluoride	(F)		0.1 mg/l

The treated waters in the area have given rise to no concern on the grounds of plumbo solvency and analyses on the supply water at source, in distribution and after overnight standing in lead service pipes, have yielded figures within the recently revised acceptable lead concentration.

The number of houses connected during the year was 21 and 220 yards of main were laid for housing developments.



## **SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

I have to thank the Engineer and Surveyor for the following notes :—

The major reconstruction scheme referred to in recent annual reports is about to go out to tender to a selected list of contractors.

The work will consist of the complete rebuilding of the main Bolsover and Shuttlewood Sewage Disposal plants and the provision of a pumping station at Stanfree. Reconstruction and repair of sewers and storm overflows will be carried out as necessary and Moor Lane Pumping Station will be enlarged so as to be capable of eliminating slight flooding which occurs in Moor Lane at times of heavy storm and accepting housing development area "B" of area approximately 50 acres.

It is expected that work will commence in the summer of 1971. Meanwhile, effluents from sewage disposal plants continue to be maintained at approximately Royal Commission standard but only with great difficulty.

## FACTORIES ACTS

There are 28 factories registered in the Bolsover Urban District which are inspected from time to time, and action taken as it is necessary. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

1. **Inspections** for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of Inspec- tions	Number of Written notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	3	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	22	65	1
(iii) Other Premises in which Sect 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (excluding outworkers' Premises.)	5	16	1
Total	28	84	2

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars.	Number of Cases in which defects were found.			
	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences				
Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	—	—
Total	3	2	—	—

## 3. Outwork.

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council
Wearing apparel, making, etc.	1	—

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

and

**CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT**

for the year 1970

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Bolsover Urban District Council.

Mr Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report for the  
year 1970.

During the year 29 houses were built by private developers being one more than in the previous year and the highest annual total since the end of the war. One would like to see this number grow each year but the prospects for the immediate future do not appear too bright as the number of houses under construction at the end of 1970 had fallen to 11, compared with 31 at the end of 1969. During the past 10 years the Council have erected very few houses, only 62, but in the spring of 1970 work was commenced on erecting 6 bungalows and 32 flats for older persons and smaller families on a site at Hill Top quite close to the town centre, and this development should prove most attractive.

The improved grants introduced in the Housing Act 1969 received widespread publicity during the year together with financial assistance which is now available towards the cost of environmental improvement. It is now possible to consider at the same time the repair and modernisation of houses and the improvement and cleaning up of the area in which they stand, and this should produce more worthwhile and satisfying results. After

discussions with the residents and owners of houses the Council declared the Bentinck Road area of Shuttlewood to be a General Improvement Area and ambitious plans were formulated to thoroughly repair and modernise the houses in this street and to improve the environment including the street, the front and rear gardens and the allotment gardens which adjoin these houses. To facilitate this work the Council have acquired 40 of the tenanted houses and one hopes that future reports will be able to set out the progress made on improving this part of the district.

It is pleasing to be able to report that a record number of houses was improved with grant aid, on this occasion 118, and it is particularly gratifying that the number of tenanted houses far exceeded those which were owner occupied—95 against 23. At the end of the year the number of tenanted houses improved since 1954 exceeded by one the number of owner occupied houses and one hopes that this proportion can be maintained. In 1970 the National Coal Board completed the repair and improvement of 110 houses at New Bolsover and a grant for the remaining 84 houses was approved by the Council, but this programme became delayed by the protracted process of determining fair rents and no work on the second stage had been undertaken by the end of the year. It is hoped that the completion of this plan to repair and modernise the "Model Village" can be achieved without much further delay.

No further progress has been made on implementing the Council's programme for introducing smoke control areas and 1970 proved to be a most disappointing year for those engaged on the reduction of atmospheric pollution. The change to North Sea Gas with the resultant reduction in manufacture of gas from coal and the conditions in the steel industry played their part in producing a shortage of solid smokeless fuels; some Councils suspended smoke control orders during the 1969-1970 winter and many more Councils did the same before the

advent of the 1970-1971 winter. This district fared much better than most, but one hopes that the shortage of solid smokeless fuels can speedily be overcome and that the national clean air campaign can be pursued without further hindrance.

It is a pleasure to be able to report that the public cleansing service again operated throughout the year in an efficient manner, maintaining regular weekly collections, producing record income for sales of waste paper and that labour problems were completely absent.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN F. H. WALTON,

Public Health Inspector and Cleansing  
Superintendent.



## GENERAL INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Table showing inspections, etc., undertaken during the year 1970 :—

Inspections of houses for nuisances and defects ...	232
Revisits to houses ... ..	294
Visits in connection with improvement of houses ...	261
Visits re water supply ... ..	19
Visits to infectious disease cases ... ..	2
Milk distributors and dairies ... ..	30
Slaughterhouses — Meat Inspection ... ..	56
Butchers' Shops ... ..	41
Bakehouses ... ..	3
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	12
Other Food Preparing Premises ... ..	81
Food Shops ... ..	143
Market Stalls ... ..	120
Ice Cream Premises ... ..	34
Inns and other Public Buildings ... ..	9
Factories and Workplaces ... ..	84
Knacker's Yard ... ..	15
Schools ... ..	9
Controlled Refuse Tips ... ..	91
Colliery Spoil Banks ... ..	5
Clean Air Act — Smoke Observations ... ..	5
Clean Air Act — Smoke Control Area ... ..	42
re Atmospheric Pollution ... ..	11
Moveable Dwellings ... ..	16
re Keeping of Animals ... ..	12
Shops Act ... ..	8
Petroleum Licensing ... ..	39
Drainage Works ... ..	142
to Public Baths ... ..	9
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises ... ..	42
Interviews with Owners, Contractors, etc. ...	171

## HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT DEFECTS

The following table shows the defects remedied as a result of action under the Housing and Public Health Acts.

Defects in connection with :—

House roofs	...	...	...	...	41
Chimney stacks	...	...	...	...	9
Eaves, gutters and rain water pipes				...	32
Pointing and brickwork of walls				...	41
Yard paving	...	...	...	...	16
Waste pipes	...	...	...	...	19
Internal wall and ceiling plaster				...	134
Window and sash cords	...	...	...	...	19
Doors	...	...	...	...	8
Floors	...	...	...	...	19
Staircases	...	...	...	...	3
Cooking ranges and fireplaces				...	19
Sinks	...	...	...	...	14
Rising or penetrating dampness				...	72
Outbuildings	...	...	...	...	14
Drains and inspection chambers				...	47
Water closet pedestals	...	...	...	...	17
Closet flushing cisterns	...	...	...	...	16
Walls and fences	...	...	...	...	7
Dilapidated dustbins	...	...	...	...	119

In connection with the foregoing defects 149 informal notices and 3 statutory notices were served. Legal proceedings in one case resulted in the Magistrates Court at Chesterfield making a Nuisance Order requiring the execution of repairs.



## **HOUSING**

One of the first duties of any local authority is to protect and promote the health of the inhabitants of its area, and of major importance is the ensuring of enough good houses where the people can live contented and healthy lives. This duty will always be of great concern because the demand for better houses will continue to rise with succeeding generations. It requires the erection of houses and bungalows for letting and nowadays this is left almost entirely to local authorities; those families who aspire to own their homes should be encouraged to do so and be offered a reasonable choice; the older houses which must continue in use however fast new houses are built should be kept in good repair and be provided with modern amenities; and the houses which are not acceptable by present day standards should be removed and replaced.

We may never reach the stage where every individual family has a perfectly satisfactory home, but the nearer we come to achieving that target the greater progress we shall have made in protecting and promoting the health of the inhabitants of this district.

### **Housing Development**

During 1970, 29 houses were built in the Urban District, representing an increase of one when compared with the previous year. All these houses were built by private developers for owner occupation and although the total is quite modest it is the highest figure achieved in the post-war period. At the beginning of the year there were 31 houses under construction but this total had fallen to 11 by the end of the year. The Council have built no houses since 1967, but in April, 1970, work commenced on a site at Hill Top to provide 6 bungalows and 32 smaller flats for older and smaller families. By the end of the year some of these dwellings were approaching completion.

The number of houses in the Urban District had risen to 3,798 by the end of the year, and of that total, 1,421 had been built since the war — 834 by the Council, 256 by the Coal Industry Housing Association and 331 by private developers. All the houses erected by the C.I.H.A. and over three quarters of the houses built by the Council had been completed by 1956 and the effect of this very good progress made in the comparatively early, post-war years has been to provide a fair sized pool of houses at reasonably low rents. The good progress made in these early years went a long way towards overcoming the major housing difficulties which existed at that time, but there remains a need to provide smaller homes for the ever increasing proportion of older persons in the community and the development now taking place at Hill Top should prove of real benefit.

### **Removal of Unfit Houses**

In past years the Council's slum clearance programme made the greatest progress when houses were being erected for families who were being displaced, and great strides were made in the 1950's. Later, and for quite a number of years, there was a reduction in the number of houses dealt with, but a steady increase during recent years in the number of Council houses becoming vacant as a result of normal population movement has enabled the removal of unfit houses to be tackled on a more satisfactory scale.

Following the coming into operation of the Housing Act, 1969, and the issue of Circular 62/69 by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, a further survey was made of the poorer houses in the Urban area. Early in 1970 the Minister was informed that 66 unfit houses remained to be cleared including 7 houses which were in a clearance order awaiting confirmation. The Council decided that these unfit houses would be dealt with in the following three years and the progress made in reducing this total during 1970 is set out below :—

## **Clearance Areas**

### **Shuttlewood Road Clearance Order**

The Council made a Clearance Order covering the 7 houses numbered 141-153 (odd numbers only) Shuttlewood Road, Bolsover, on the 23rd September, 1969, and this order was confirmed without modification by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 30th January, 1970, and subsequently became operative on the 21st March, 1970. In addition to paying compensation to one owner occupier living in the clearance area the Council were directed to make a wholly well-maintained payment in respect of one house and partly well-maintained payments in respect of 3 other houses. All the families were found suitable alternative accommodation and in December, 1970, quotations were obtained for demolition of all the buildings in the clearance area.

### **Individual Unfit Houses**

Official representations and reports were made in respect of the following houses, which were thought to be unfit for human habitation :—

- 16 Hill Top, Bolsover
- 2, 4, 6 and 8 Vivian Street, Shuttlewood.
- 53 and 55 Limekiln Fields, Bolsover
- 24 and 23 Mill Lane, Bolsover
- "The Bungalow", Blind Lane, Bolsover
- 2 Blind Lane, Bolsover
- 13 Bolsover Hill, Bolsover.

A Demolition Order was made in respect of each of these 12 houses of which 3 were already vacant, and by the end of the year 2 of the families had accepted alternative housing accommodation.

In addition, a house numbered 51 Limekiln Fields, which was dealt with in the previous year's slum clearance programme, was demolished.

Many of the unfit houses which remain are detached or semi-detached cottages, or are contained in very small terraces, and it has been found that quite a few of the occupiers are elderly persons who have lived in their present homes for very many years and are extremely reluctant to leave their present surroundings. In these cases the Council have decided to defer demolition of the houses for the time being.

During the year a total of 20 persons, comprising 9 families, were displaced by slum clearance action and the total number of houses which had been demolished or closed since 1955 had risen to 263.

### **IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES**

A record number of 118 privately owned houses were improved during the year, '84 under the discretionary grant scheme and 34 under the standard grant scheme. For the sixth consecutive year the number of tenanted houses improved exceeded those which were owner occupied, on this occasion 95 compared with 23.

The total amount paid in grants was £34,110, an average of £337 for each house under the discretionary grant scheme and an average of £171 per house for the standard grants. The amenities provided by means of standard grants were 34 inside water closets, 28 complete hot water systems, 28 wash-hand basins, 28 baths, 4 ventilated food stores and 10 sinks. In 9 cases the grants were in respect of extensions or conversions to dwelling houses.



The following table shows the number of privately owned houses in the Urban District which have been improved under the grant scheme.

	Owner-Occupied Houses	Tenanted Houses	Total Houses Improved
1954	3	-	3
1955	25	40	65
1956	23	6	29
1957	15	4	19
1958	19	6	25
1959	32	-	32
1960 (Standard Grants)	15	-	
(Discretionary Grants)	3	6	24
1961 (Standard Grants)	15	1	
(Discretionary Grants)	6	1	23
1962 (Standard Grants)	27	22	
(Discretionary Grants)	4	8	61
1963 (Standard Grants)	40	20	
(Discretionary Grants)	1	-	61
1964 (Standard Grants)	22	9	
(Discretionary Grants)	2	1	34
1965 (Standard Grants)	19	26	
(Discretionary Grants)	1	13	59
1966 (Standard Grants)	11	14	
(Discretionary Grants)	1	-	26
1967 (Standard Grants)	28	29	57
1968 (Standard Grants)	18	20	38
1969 (Standard Grants)	21	22	
(Discretionary Grants)	-	32	75
1970 (Standard Grants)	23	11	
(Discretionary Grants)	-	84	118
	374	375	749

At the end of the year there were 108 cases where applications for grant had already been approved, but where the works had not been completed.

Reports for recent years have referred to the decision of the National Coal Board to thoroughly repair and improve the 194 "Model Village" houses at New Bolsover and of the Board's decision to undertake this work in two stages in view of the heavy capital costs involved. In 1968 the Council approved an application for an improvement grant in respect of 110 of the houses and this work was completed in 1970. It had been the Board's intention to proceed with the repair and improvement of the remaining 84 houses immediately on completion of the first stage, but it was unfortunate that the new provisions contained in the Housing Act, 1969, came into operation in the middle of this modernisation programme. The new Act introduced a new means of assessing rents of houses let on controlled tenancies which were being repaired and improved and applications for qualification certificates were dealt with in December, 1969. An application for an improvement grant in respect of these 84 houses was approved by the Council in 1970, but difficulties subsequently arose in agreeing a rent for the houses after improvement. Quite a number of the tenants appealed against the fair rents determined by the Rent Officer and their case was heard by the Rent Assessment Panel in the Autumn of 1970, when the recommended rents were somewhat reduced. No progress has yet been made on repairing and improving these 84 houses and one hopes that this scheme will be carried out in the not too distant future. It would indeed be a very great pity if only just over half of the houses in the "Model Village" were dealt with.

The Housing Act, 1969, introduced increased grants for houses being improved, assistance with the cost of repairs where houses were being thoroughly repaired and modernised, a new method of calculating the rents of

houses which were being repaired and improved to the required standard and a completely new concept of improving whole areas rather than individual houses with extra grants available for works to achieve a better environment. These far reaching provisions place much greater emphasis on planned and systematic house and area improvement, possibly at the expense of new development, with the object of creating better living conditions for families in their existing homes and environment.

For a number of years the question of improving the living conditions of the families residing in the 87 houses in Bentinck Road has been considered by the Council, this being a somewhat isolated part of the district away from other houses in the Shuttlewood area. Following the introduction of the Housing Act, 1969, the Council appointed a special sub-committee to consider this problem in all its aspects. The houses in the street are mostly contained in terraces of 8 and originally all were owned by members of one family and let on weekly tenancies. In more recent years houses have been sold for owner occupation and this number has now reached 34. The owner occupiers have been extremely anxious to repair and modernise their homes, but it has never been possible to secure the co-operation of the owners of the tenanted houses in a scheme to deal with all the houses in the street. Following the introduction of greater financial assistance in the 1969 Act, the Council decided to declare this part of their district a General Improvement Area, to purchase 40 of the tenanted houses with the object of repairing and improving them to a high standard and to encourage all other owners to take advantage of grants for the repair and improvement of their houses. Consultations took place with all the residents and owners of the houses in Bentinck Road and the General Improvement Area was declared in October, 1970, and was possibly the first one established in the County of Derbyshire. It is proposed to thoroughly repair and improve the houses taking maximum advantage



of the grants available under the 1969 Act and to improve the street, the front and rear gardens and the allotment gardens which virtually surround the street by landscaping, tree planting, the creation of individual house gardens, the removal of derelict sheds and garages, the provision of purpose built garages and the creation of recreational, amenity and children's play areas. This will be a very ambitious programme and the enthusiastic support and co-operation received from residents in the street has been most noticeable. It is hoped that reports for future years will be able to outline the progress being made with improving the living conditions of the families residing in Bentinck Road.

1970 was a record year for the improvement of private houses in the Urban District and 118 houses were improved and repaired with the aid of grants. This total far exceeds any achieved in previous years and the number of applications for improvement of private houses is now approaching 1,000. One hopes that this good progress can be maintained for a little longer, but the number of houses without bathrooms and modern amenities is now rapidly diminishing.

In recent years the Council have undertaken the repair and improvement of houses they own and the number of houses so far dealt with has reached 129. A further scheme to modernise pre-war houses in the Moor Lane area was prepared during 1970.

### **Homes for the Elderly**

The total number of Council owned ground floor flats, bungalows and smaller houses suitable for older persons now stands at 189, there being no addition during the year. The proportion of elderly persons in the community grows year by year and there continues to be a considerable demand for Council bungalows. Many people look forward to moving to smaller well equipped houses, later in life, and it would be a great advantage if the number of bungalows available, especially those

with two bedrooms, were sufficient to allow tenancies to be offered to couples in their late fifties or early sixties, enabling them to settle down in their new homes while they still enjoyed reasonable health and strength. The development now taking place on Hill Top to provide 38 bungalows and small flats close to the centre of the town should produce a welcome addition to the number of dwellings suitable for occupation by older persons.

### **Mining Subsidence**

Damage to property as a result of mining subsidence is, of course, an ever present difficulty in coal mining areas, but the extraction of a particular seam of coal by one of the local collieries has resulted in more severe and widespread damage to houses in recent years. During 1970 quite a number of building contractors, engaged by the National Coal Board, were involved in the repair of houses damaged by mining subsidence, and in several cases the owners elected to carry out improvement and modernisation at the same time.

### **Housing Act, 1969—Qualification Certificates**

No application for qualification certificates were received during the year in respect of houses containing all the standard amenities and complying with the defined standard of repair, but applications were received in respect of seven houses which were being improved and repaired to the new standard. In those cases certificates of provisional approval were issued, but in no instance was the work completed during the year.

### **Caravans and Moveable Dwellings**

At the beginning of the year there were five separate licensed sites, each containing one caravan and these continued in occupation throughout the year.

In 1970, the National Coal Board made application for a licence to station one caravan on the site of two houses in Shuttlewood Road, Bolsover, which had to be demolished following damage resulting from mining subsidence. It was the Board's intention to use a caravan on the site for temporarily rehousing families whose houses were being repaired after subsidence damage, but no work on establishing this site had been undertaken by the 31st December, 1970.

### **Rent Act, 1957—Certificate of Disrepair**

No applications for certificates of disrepair were received during the year.

### **Verminous Premises**

There was again no evidence of bed bug infestation, though a number of houses experienced trouble from cockroaches and control measures were carried out. Suitable powder and liquid insecticides are available free of charge to affected properties.

In several cases control measures against cockroaches were taken at the time particular houses were being repaired and improved under the grant schemes and this treatment proved to be most effective.

### **Water Supply**

Every house in the district is supplied with water from the main supply of the North Derbyshire Water Board.

## FOOD & DRUGS ADMINISTRATION

### Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

The number of premises in the Urban District subject to the provisions of these regulations is set out below :—

Bakehouses	1
Licensed Clubs carrying out catering	1
Ice Cream Manufacturers	1
Manufacturers of Sausages, etc.	7
Fish and Chip Shops	4
Predominantly Grocers Shops	41
Predominantly Greengrocers Shops	4
Shops selling mainly Sugar Confectionery	8
Shops selling mainly Flour Confectionery	3
Dispensing Chemists	1
Butchers Shops	8

At the end of the year the premises which were fitted to comply with the requirements of Regulations 16 and 19 were as follows :—

	Regulation 16	Regulation 19
Bakehouses	1	1
Licensed Clubs carrying out catering	1	1
Ice Cream Manufacturers	1	1
Manufacturers of Sausages	7	7
Fish and Chip Shops	3	3
Grocers Shops	38	41
Greengrocers	3	3
Sugar Confectioners Shops	7	7
Flour Confectioners Shops	2	3
Dispensing Chemists	1	1
Butchers Shops	7	8



During 1970, 184 visits were paid to premises used for the preparation of food and 289 visits were paid to food shops and market stalls, including 49 shops registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the sale of ice cream.

During the year action continued to be taken to secure compliance with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations and to impress upon all food traders and their staffs the vital importance of strict attention to cleanliness and hygienic practices in all aspects of the preparation and handling of food. The majority of shops in this district are combined shop and house premises of restricted size, where the hygienic storage and display of a wide variety of foods and other goods give rise to problems. A few shops in the town have been modernised in recent years to provide more hygienic conditions and better facilities for the shoppers, but the majority of shops in the central area are still in old premises which were converted from other uses many years ago. A plan exists for the redevelopment of the central area of the town to provide a number of new shops, but, unfortunately, progress on achieving this objective has not yet been made.

### **Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations**

These Regulations came into operation at the beginning of 1967 and the Council provided a sink, wash hand basin and hot and cold water supply, in a building immediately adjacent to the site of the local weekly market and also provided sheets for enclosing those stalls where open food is sold.

Subsequently, seven market traders were granted certificates of exemption in respect of the requirements of certain of the regulations.

Work was also undertaken to ensure that a variety of vehicles used for retailing food were provided with water supplies and washing facilities.

### **Slaughterhouses—Inspection of Meat and other Foods**

The effect of the Slaughterhouses Act and of the Regulations made under the Act, is to ensure the lairring, handling and slaughtering of animals in a humane manner and to secure hygienic conditions for the handling of carcasses and offal and for efficient inspection of meat. These requirements came into full effect in the Urban District on the 1st October, 1961, and by that date the private slaughterhouses had been repaired and improved to comply with the requirements.

On the 1st October, 1963, the Meat Inspection Regulations came into operation. The main effect of these Regulations is to place a duty on local authorities to ensure that all animals, slaughtered for human consumption, are inspected and marked before they are moved from the slaughterhouses and to allow local authorities to introduce charges for meat inspection, as a means of recouping the cost of the service. The introduction of the Regulations created no difficulties, as a 100% inspection service had been maintained, since the re-opening of local slaughterhouses in 1954, and the services of Chesterfield Corporation Meat Inspectors have always been available during my absence. The Council introduced charges of 2/6 per bovine animal, 9d. per calf or pig and 6d. per sheep or lamb.

During 1969, two local slaughterhouses closed down and throughout the whole of 1970 only one small slaughterhouse remained in use. A very limited amount of slaughtering is carried out in these premises on one afternoon each week and the number of animals slaughtered in this district in 1970 was drastically lower than in previous years. Slaughtering was carried out on 51 days and income from meat inspection charges amounted to £12 7 6d. A total of 214lb. of offal was rejected as unfit for food.

**Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole  
or in part.**

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ...	99	---	---	---	---	---
Number inspected	99	---	---	---	---	---
<b>All diseases ex- cept Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>						
Whole carcasses con- demned	---	---	---	---	---	---
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	---	---	---	---	---
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	14.1	---	---	---	---	---
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>						
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	---	---	---	---	---	---
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned..	---	---	---	---	---	---
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tub- erculosis ...	---	---	---	---	---	---
<b>Cysticercosis</b>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned..	---	---	---	---	---	---
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	---	---	---	---	---	---
Generalised and tot- ally condemned...	---	---	---	---	---	---



During 1970, 40 packets of frozen foods which were found to be unfit for human consumption were voluntarily surrendered for disposal at the Council's refuse tip.

### **Slaughter of Animals Act**

At the end of 1970, three persons held licences to slaughter, or stun, animals in slaughterhouses or knack-ers yards.

### **Milk and Dairies Regulations**

The sale of non-designated milk is prohibited in this district by virtue of the Milk (Special Designation) Specified Area (No. 3) Order, 1953, which came into operation on the 1st January, 1954.

With one exception, all milk produced at dairy farms in this district, is collected by dairy companies for subsequent pasteurisation or sterilisation prior to retail sale. One dairy farmer bottles some of the milk produced at his farm and retails it locally as untreated milk, the rest of the milk being sold to a dairy company. From this particular farm a total of 4 samples of untreated milk were obtained during the year, all satisfied the methylene blue reduction test and the milk ring test for brucella abortus.

### **Food and Drugs Act, 1955**

The Derbyshire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority and the County Analyst, Mr J. Markland, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., has kindly supplied details of samples taken, as follows :—

Forty-four samples, including two milks, were taken under the above Act in the area of the Bolsover Urban District Council during the year 1970. One Lemon Drink was found to contain cyclamate. The remaining stock was withdrawn from sale and destroyed. The remaining samples were all classed as satisfactory.

### **Bacteriological Examination of Samples**

There is one small manufacturer of ice cream in this district and during the year five samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, with results as follows :—

Provisional Grade 1	4
Provisional Grade 2	-
Provisional Grade 3	1
Provisional Grade 4	-

A total of six samples from the inlet and outlet ends of the Public Baths were submitted for bacteriological examination, five of the samples were completely satisfactory, but on one occasion the plate count was slightly in excess of the recommended standard.

Three samples of water from the main supply of the North Derbyshire Water Board were submitted for examination and all were reported as satisfactory.

Three samples of locally bottled orange drink were reported as satisfactory.

### **The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963**

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in this district.

### **Poultry Inspection**

There are no poultry processing premises operating in the Urban District.

### **Knackers Yard**

Fifteen visits of inspection were paid to the knackers yard. This is a rather small business in a very remote part of the Urban District; it is conducted in as satisfactory a manner as its nature and location permit.

In recent years these premises have been enlarged

and improved to afford much better facilities for storage of meat, offals and waste products and to allow for sterilisation of meat.

Two buildings in Mill Lane, Bolsover, are licensed for the lairage of animals in connection with this business

## **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

At the present time there are in the Urban District no premises licensed under the provisions of this Act.

### **Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963**

This Act came into operation on the 1st January, 1964, and during the year the first registration of premises was made. The licence granted from 1st July, 1970, related to premises on the Oxcroft Estate which had previously been in use as a smallholding.

### **Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963**

This Act came into operation during 1964, its main effect being to make provision for the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in non-industrial premises and to require those premises to be registered either with the Factory Inspectorate or with the local authority.

The table below sets out the registrations with this Council as at the 31st December, 1970 :—

**TABLE (a) — Registrations and general inspections**

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	-	15	4
Retail shops	1	48	21
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	4	2
Fuel storage depots	-	1	-

**TABLE (b) — Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises**

42 — these included four reported accidents.

**TABLE (c) — Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace**

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons employed
Offices	664
Retail Shops	151
Wholesale departments, warehouses	2
Catering establishments open to the public	13
Canteens	9
Fuel Storage Depots	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>841</b>
 Total Males	 518
Total Females	323

The vast majority of persons employed in offices are working at a large office complex at the North Derbyshire Area Headquarters of the National Coal Board. There are no large retail shops or department stores and the employees in shops are for the most part working in small businesses.

During the year inspections made of registered premises within the Urban District have shown that a reasonable standard of compliance with the requirements of the Act is continuing to be maintained. Where contraventions were found, and these were usually in the nature of deficiencies in the first aid boxes or failure to display an Abstract of the Act, verbal advice was sufficient for any remedial action to be taken.

Three shops closed during 1970 and one was removed from the list of registered premises as being outside the scope of the Act. The premises of one office block of the National Coal Board have closed and the employees were transferred to another district.

There has still been no commencement on work for the redevelopment of the central shopping area, but during the year, the Council approved plans to provide a supermarket and four smaller units. Three shops within the proposed area have now transferred their businesses to other vacant premises and it is anticipated that work on this development will commence in the near future.

Four accidents were reported, all were of a minor nature, and one of the accidents was investigated.

Inspections under the Act continued to be combined with inspections under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations in appropriate cases.

### **Petroleum Licensing**

39 inspections were made of premises used for the storage of petroleum spirit.



In recent years, detailed inspection of all storage installations has been undertaken to secure compliance with the Home Office Model Codes. Underground storage tanks which had been in use for over twenty years have been subjected to tests before renewal of the annual licences.

During 1970, a garage and service station at Shuttlewood, which had been empty for several months, was brought back into use and the premises were re-licensed.

At the end of 1970, 20 licences were in force, covering a maximum storage capacity of 395,325 gallons.

### **Rodent Control**

The Cleansing Foreman has undertaken approved training and carries out regular rodent control work and the Technical Assistant, employed in this department, has also attended a Ministry course on rodent control measures.

The Council carry out free treatment for rats and mice at domestic premises and provide treatment at business premises on a rechargeable basis. Seven business premises, the knacker yard and six agricultural properties, were the subject of annual contracts; systematic inspections and treatments have resulted in all these premises being kept under control. Many of the other industrial and agricultural premises in the district have annual contracts with rodent control operators.

The systematic survey of the district for rats and mice was continued throughout the year. Permanent baiting points have been maintained at the refuse tip, sewage disposal works and in certain lengths of public sewer and this method of treatment has been found to be most successful. Test baiting of the public sewers throughout the district was undertaken and revealed very little evidence of infestation.

## Rodent Control Report for Year ended December 31st, 1970

	Type of Property			
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Business Premises	Agricultural
Total properties inspected	7	360	17	11
Number of treatments carried out				
Rats	4	55	1	8
Mice	—	8	—	—

The number of treatments carried out shows a decrease on the previous year, but all the infestations found and treated were of a minor nature. The general public now realise that a free service is offered for rodent control and co-operate in notifying the presence of rats and mice.

### Conversion of Pail Closets, etc.

In the early post-war years new sewage schemes serving houses in Whaley, Whaley Common and Chesterfield Road, Shuttlewood, had the effect of drastically reducing the number of pail closets in the Urban District. There remain nine houses without water closets and all of these are in widely scattered parts of the district, most of them far removed from public sewers.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The measurement of atmospheric pollution in this district was commenced on the 1st February, 1959, and the instruments were sited with the co-operation of officers of the Warren Spring Laboratory, now of the Department of Trade and Industry.

### Deposited Matter

One deposit gauge was sited at Hall Farm, Woodhouse Lane, at a point some 700 yards due east of the carbonising works of the Derbyshire Coalite Co., Ltd. and 700 yards north east of Bolsover Colliery, these being the main sources of industrial pollution in this area and where considerable quantities of coal are carbonised or burned. The second deposit gauge was sited in Moor Lane in a residential area 500 yards east north east of the town centre and approximately 3,000 yards to the south east of the Coalite Works and the Colliery.

The results obtained during the months of 1970 are set out below, together with the daily averages for the previous two years.

### Undissolved Deposited Matter

(Milligrammes per square meter per day)

1970	Hall Farm Woodhouse Lane	96 Moor Lane
January	75.0	59.8
February	75.3	30.1
March	107.2	53.0
April	111.2	47.8
May	79.8	56.5
June	134.2	54.0
July	90.1	125.9
August	67.9	62.2
September	63.2	24.0
October	99.6	54.3
November	99.4	32.9
December	102.0	3.4
1970 daily average	92.1	50.3 mgs. per sq. meter
1969 daily average	96.2	62.0 mgs. per sq. meter
1968 daily average	96.1	50.6 mgs. per sq. meter

Records prior to 1968 were expressed in tons per square mile per month and related to both dissolved and undissolved deposited matter; these have not been set out in the report in an attempt to avoid confusion. Since recordings were first commenced 11 years ago there has been a sustained and gradual reduction in deposited matter, especially at the Hall Farm Site, which is close to the Coalite Works and the Bolsover Colliery, this having been achieved by greater attention to smoke abatement at the Coalite Works and by electrification at the Colliery. This steady improvement was maintained during 1970, when deposited matter recorded was again lower than in the previous years.

## Estimation of Sulphur

Apparatus for the measurement of sulphur by the lead peroxide method has been set up in two places in the Urban District; at a site in Cundy Road on the edge of a housing estate some 1,200 yards east of the Bolsover Colliery and 1,330 yards to the east of the Coalite Works; a second site was in the Moor Lane residential area 500 yards east north east of the town centre and 3,000 yards to the south east of the Coalite Works and Colliery. The results for the months in 1970 are set out below, together with the monthly averages for the previous eleven years.

### Estimation of Sulphur by the Lead Peroxide Method

(Mg. of SO<sub>3</sub> per day collected by 100 sq. cm. of Batch A PbO<sub>2</sub>) (Louvered cover)

1970	2 Cundy Road	96 Moor Lane
January	1.28	2.15
February	2.01	2.21
March	1.52	2.06
April	1.00	1.66
May	0.98	1.21
June	0.52	0.62
July	1.05	0.60
August	0.72	0.76
September	0.92	1.07
October	1.24	1.40
November	1.61	2.11
December	1.34	2.23



1970 monthly average	1.18	1.51
1969 monthly average	1.10	1.65
1968 monthly average	1.09	1.62
1967 monthly average	1.24	1.80
1966 monthly average	1.21	1.86
1965 monthly average	1.38	1.99
1964 monthly average	1.42	1.85
1963 monthly average	1.40	2.05
1962 monthly average	1.61	1.91
1961 monthly average	1.79	1.75
1960 monthly average	1.55	1.58
1959 monthly average	1.62	1.48

The most striking feature of these figures is the gradual and sustained reduction in the level of sulphur recorded nearer to the industrial undertakings, where the improvement has been greater than in the residential area of the town.

In addition to the deposit gauges and lead peroxide instruments established by the Council, Coalite and Chemical Products Limited co-operate in the national survey of smoke and sulphur dioxide. Their instruments are sited at the Coalite Works which is immediately adjacent to Bolsover Colliery and the results of daily measurements of smoke and sulphur are published by the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Department of Trade and Industry.

### **Smoke Control Area**

There is one smoke control area in operation in the Urban District covering an area of 86 acres and which contained 230 occupied houses at the end of 1970. Limited housing development has been taking place in the smoke control area since it was established in 1963 and the number of houses continues to rise.

Early in 1970 there were indications that the shortage of solid smokeless fuels, which at that time assumed national significance, was beginning to be felt in this area and many of the occupiers were having to wait for deliveries of fuel. This also affected mineworkers living in the smoke control area who were entitled to supplies of fuel under the Smokeless Fuel Agreement with the National Coal Board. The smoke control order remained in operation although orders in certain parts of the country were temporarily suspended.

It was expected that the supply of solid smokeless fuel would prove more difficult during the winter of 1970-1971; in the summer of 1970 the Department of the Environment advised local authorities to consult with the Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation and with manufacturers and merchants and to be prepared to suspend smoke control orders during the winter period if hardship were likely to occur to residents in these areas. We were given assurances that the supply position in this part of the country should be reasonably satisfactory provided the winter weather was not too severe or protracted and that industrial disputes did not affect coal or smokeless fuel production. The Council appointed a small sub-committee to deal with the question of urgent suspension of the smoke control order should this be necessary, but in the event no action has been required and we have now come almost to the end of a remarkably mild winter without the serious problems which could have arisen. At the present time there are indications that stocks of solid smokeless fuel are rising, that new works are resulting in increased production and that the shortage of fuels could well be overcome.

Mining areas traditionally rely more on solid fuels than on gas, electricity, or oil and one hopes that programmes to reduce atmospheric pollution can be prepared and implemented with the assurance that no further set backs will occur. The question of conservation, of tackling pollution and improving the environment is now ex-

tremely topical and there is no doubt that a reduction in atmospheric pollution is not only desirable, but very necessary if we are to protect the health of the community. The problems of dirty water and food have largely been overcome, the problems of unsatisfactory housing and working conditions are rapidly being beaten and it now remains to ensure that the air we breathe is as clean and pure as we can possibly achieve.

## **PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE**

During the year under review the Council operated

- (i) An 18 cubic yard Karrier Dual Tip refuse vehicle (purchased in 1960) with a team of five workmen on whole time refuse collection duties. This vehicle was replaced in October, 1970 by a vehicle of similar size and make.
- (ii) A second 18 cubic yard Karrier Dual Tip refuse vehicle (purchased in November, 1969) with a team of four workmen on whole time refuse collection duties.
- (iii) A Fordson Super Major Tractor (purchased in 1964) with bulldozer blade, bucket and fork-lift attachments for levelling and covering of refuse at the tip and for stacking and loading baled waste paper. At the end of 1965 a seven cubic yard covered refuse trailer was purchased for use with this tractor to collect waste paper from shops and other business premises in the district. This equipment can be brought into use on refuse collection work at holiday time, or when vehicle breakdown occurs.

One workman was employed whole time on the sorting and baling of waste paper and a working foreman carries out pest control measures, operates the free drain rodding service, undertakes vehicle maintenance and assists with all other work at times of sickness or holidays.

In addition the Council operate a 1,000 gallon Karrier Yorkshire Gully/cesspool emptier (purchased in 1961) on the emptying of cesspools and pail closets, the daily removal of sludge from the main sewage works, the cleansing of street gullies and the periodic flushing of sewers. Two men are employed on this vehicle which is now under the control of the Engineer and Surveyor.



## **Refuse Collection and Disposal**

Reports for the past two years have referred to the introduction in March, 1968, of an incentive payments scheme for men employed on refuse collection and disposal and have detailed the increased productivity which was achieved with a reduced labour force. This scheme virtually eliminated the changeover in staff which was such a common occurrence in former years and also had the effect of reducing the number of days lost, through sickness.

For the whole of the year a regular weekly collection was maintained throughout the Urban District and I should like, once again, to pay tribute to the public cleansing workmen. They have worked hard and conscientiously, providing a service of vital public health importance which we are inclined to take for granted. Their's is not a pleasant or attractive occupation, especially in a mining area where the yield and ash content of refuse is higher than the average. In the autumn of each of the past two years local authority workmen in various parts of the country have withheld their labour in an attempt to secure increased wages, but fortunately this has not occurred in the Bolsover area. This action did, however, draw attention to the fact that the local authority workmen who carry out the "dirty jobs" and thereby make life more pleasant for the rest of us must have their fair share of improved living standards.

In October, 1970, the 18 cubic yard Dual Tip refuse collection vehicle, which was purchased in 1960, was replaced by an identical vehicle. The Council now operate two new collection vehicles of similar make and size and mechanical breakdowns have been very drastically reduced.

For many years all refuse collected in the Urban District has been disposed of in a disused portion of the clay pit at the New Byron Brick Company's Works which



are situated immediately outside the boundary of this district at Carr Vale. When the Brick Company discontinued production in 1969 the Council were fortunate to be able to acquire the whole site at a reasonable figure and thereby to safeguard refuse disposal arrangements for many years to come. After purchasing the area, the Council effected demolition of all the buildings on the site, fenced off the northern and eastern boundaries of the excavated areas to prevent unauthorised access and to reduce danger, and arranged for pumping of water from one of the excavated areas to maintain a reasonably safe level. The previous access to the brick works and to the tip had been through the built up area of Carr Vale, but during 1970 an alternative access road was constructed and this resulted in traffic to and from the tip being kept away from the residential area. The tip has been made available to local residents for the disposal of unwanted refuse and articles in accordance with the terms of the Civic Amenities Act and also to local builders and traders for disposal of waste materials, etc. at reasonable charges.

The Fordson tractor which was purchased in 1964, has, with its bucket and blade attachments, proved extremely useful on the refuse tip and has resulted in considerable saving of labour. Sludge from the main sewage disposal works is disposed of by burial with refuse at the tip..

### **Waste Paper Salvage**

Throughout the whole of the year the sorting and baling of waste paper and cardboard continued to be carried out in temporary premises at Town End Farm and no progress was made on the project of establishing a new Council Depot at this site. A 5 h.p. electric baling press was purchased in the summer of 1964, when the temporary premises at Town End Farm were first brought into use. The use of this improved baling equipment has enabled greater sales to be dealt with, while restricting the increase in costs.

During the year under review there were no restrictions on the sale of waste paper and early in the year leaflets were distributed to all households in the area. In the late summer and autumn of 1970 collections of waste paper throughout the Urban District slumped rather drastically and arrangements were made to distribute to every house a leaflet and a polythene sack for the storage of waste paper and cardboard. Distribution took place at the very end of 1970 and during the first quarter of 1971 record collections and sales of waste paper were achieved. To coincide with the introduction of the refuse collection incentive payments scheme, a similar scheme to cover the workmen engaged on collection and baling of waste paper and the disposal of refuse was introduced on the 1st April, 1968. Sales of waste paper and cardboard during the year ended 31st March, 1971, amounted to 209 tons 11 cwt. and produced an income of £2,409/12/0. The tonnage sold was slightly less than in the previous year, but the income received was the highest ever achieved.

These results could not have been secured without the willing co-operation of householders and business proprietors in the district and are a further indication of the conscientious work of the public cleansing staff. The Council's long term contract for the disposal of waste paper was renewed in 1970 for a further period of five years and it is hoped that improved sales of waste paper can be maintained in future years.

### **Cesspool Emptying**

The Council provide a service for emptying cesspools at those houses not served by a public sewer and also for the weekly emptying of the few remaining pail closets in the Urban District. This service is now provided by the Council's Engineer's Department.

## **Civic Amenities Act, 1967**

The Council have entered into arrangements with two local firms for the removal and/or destruction of abandoned vehicles and during 1970 this department was involved in the disposal of six derelict vehicles. A refuse dump where local residents may deposit unwanted articles, etc. for disposal has been created at the Town End Depot and the refuse tip at Carr Vale is also available.



